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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: R. Tedder, et al

International Application No.: PCT/GB97/01161

International Filing Date: 25 April 1997

Title: HEPATITIS B MONOCLONAL
ANTIBODIES

Group Art Unit: Not Assigned

Examiner: Not Assigned

Attorney Docket No.: 6508.US.O1

Date: September 29, 1999

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box PCT
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits of the U.S. National Phase of the application identified above, please amend the application as indicated below.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please CANCEL claims 7, 19, 24, 25, 27, 32-37, 39, 41, and 44-58, WITHOUT PREJUDICE.

Please AMEND claims 2-6, 10, 12, 16, 17, 20, 26, 28-31, 38, 40, and 42 as follows:

a! 2. (Amended) A monoclonal antibody as claimed in claim 1, wherein [a mutant form] at least one of said two mutant forms of HBsAg has at least one amino acid substitution relative to wild type HBsAg.